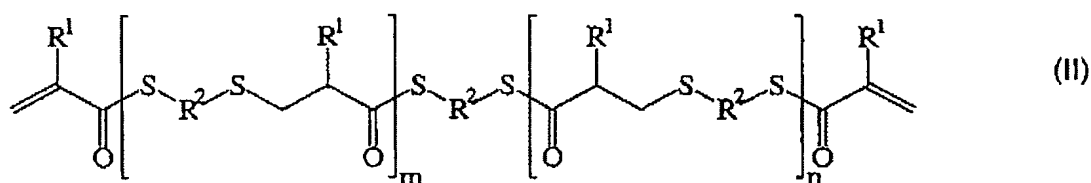


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A process for preparing a transparent plastic, comprising:

polymerizing a mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II

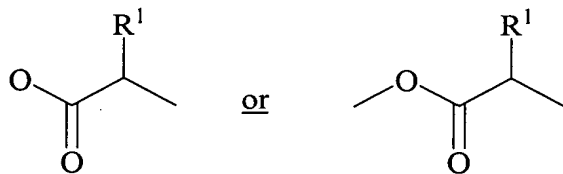


where R^1 is independently at each instance hydrogen or a methyl radical, R^2 is independently at each instance a linear or branched, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, and m and n are each independently an integer of not less than 0, subject to the proviso that $m + n > 0$, and

wherein the mixture contains more than 10 mol%, based on the total amount of the compound as per formula (I) and (II), of compounds of the formula (II) where $m + n = 2$, prepared by reacting, in the presence of a solvent L, 1.0 to less than 2.0 mol of at least one compound of the formula (III)



where X is chlorine or a radical of formula



with one mole of at least one polythiol of the formula (IV)



where M is independently at each instance hydrogen or a metal cation;

wherein the solvent L is at least one of acetone, acetonitrile, acetophenone, benzyl acetate, n-butyl acetate, quinoline, chlorobenzene, o-chlorotoluene, m-chlorotoluene, p-chlorotoluene, o-dichlorobenzene, m-dichlorobenzene, diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether, dimethyl phthalate, dipropyl ether, ethyl acetate, ethyl benzoate, ethyl butyrate, ethyl formate, ethyl salicylate, isoquinoline, 2-methoxyethyl acetate, methyl acetate, methyl benzoate, methyl butyrate, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl formate, methyl isoamyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl propionate, 2-methylpyridine, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, methyl salicylate, nitrobenzene, o-nitrotoluene, m-nitrotoluene, p-nitrotoluene, 2-pentanone, 3-pentanone, phenyl acetate, propyl formate, pyridine, tetrahydrofuran or mixtures thereof.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out under a protective gas atmosphere.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of acrylic anhydride, methacrylic anhydride and mixtures thereof.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one polythiol of the formula (IV) is ethanedithiol.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (IV) is reacted in the form of an aqueous alkaline solution which contains 1.1 to 1.5 equivalents of at least one Bronsted base, based on the total amount of the at least one compound of the formula (III).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) and the at least one compound of the formula (IV) are reacted by concurrent metering into a reaction vessel in at least one inert organic solvent L and in an aqueous alkaline solution, respectively.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out at temperatures in the range from 20°C to 80°C.

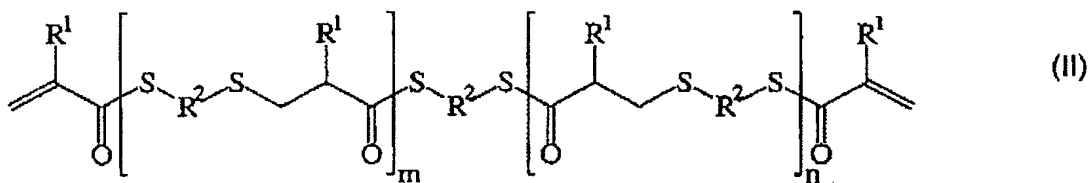
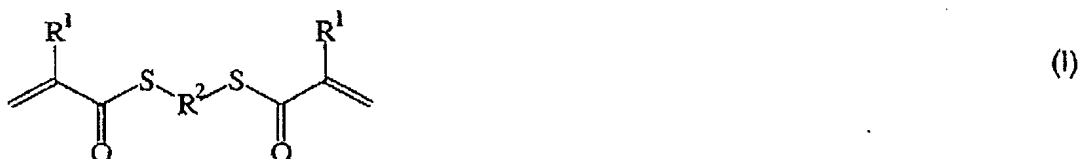
Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein an acidic ion exchanger is present during the polymerizing or during the reacting.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A transparent plastic prepared according to the process of Claim 1.

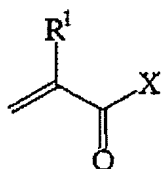
Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An optical lens comprising the transparent plastic as claimed in Claim 9.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The optical lens of Claim 10, wherein the lens is an ophthalmic lens.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II

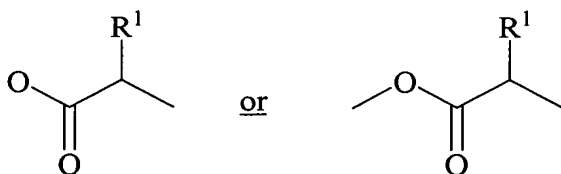


where R^1 is independently at each instance hydrogen or a methyl radical, R^2 is independently at each instance a linear or branched, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, and m and n are each independently an integer of not less than 0, subject to the proviso that $m + n > 0$, and wherein the mixture contains more than 10 mol%, based on the total amount of the compound as per formula (I) and (II), of compounds of the formula (II) where $m + n = 2$, wherein said process comprises:
reacting 1.0 to less than 2.0 mol of at least one compound of the formula (III)

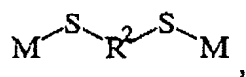


(III)

where X is chlorine or a radical of formula



with one mole of at least one polythiol of the formula (IV)



(IV)

where M is independently at each instance hydrogen or a metal cation.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II, prepared by the process of Claim 12.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reaction is carried out under protective gas atmosphere.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of acrylic anhydride, methacrylic anhydride and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one polythiol of the formula (IV) is ethanedithiol.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (IV) is reacted in the form of an aqueous alkaline solution which contains 1.1 to 1.5 equivalents of at least one Bronsted base, based on the total amount of the at least one compound of the formula (III).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein during the reacting the at least one compound of the formula (III) and the at least one compound of the formula (IV) are concurrently metered into a reaction vessel in at least one inert organic solvent L and in an aqueous alkaline solution, respectively.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reacting is carried out at temperatures in the range from 20°C to 80°C.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein an acidic ion exchanger is present during the reacting.

Claim 21 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein from 1.1 to 1.8 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 22 (New): The process of Claim 1, wherein 1.2 to 1.6 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the compound of formula (IV).

Claim 23 (New): The process of Claim 1, wherein from 1.2 to 1.5 mol of at least one compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of at least one polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 24 (New): The process according to Claim 12, wherein from 1.1 to 1.8 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 25 (New): The process of Claim 12, wherein 1.2 to 1.6 mol of the compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of the compound of formula (IV).

Claim 26 (New): The process of Claim 12, wherein from 1.2 to 1.5 mol of at least one compound of formula (III) is reacted with 1 mol of at least one polythiol of formula (IV).

Claim 27 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of formula (IV) and has a refractive index of greater than 1.608.

Claim 28 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of formula (IV) and has an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 29 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of formula (IV) and has a refractive index of greater than 1.608 and an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 30 (New): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of formula (IV) and has a refractive index of greater than 1.608.

Claim 31 (New): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of formula (IV) and has an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 32 (New): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of formula (IV) and has a refractive index of greater than 1.608 and an Abbe number above 36.

Claim 33 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of the formula (IV) and has a refractive index of greater than 1.61 and an Abbe number of greater than 39.

Claim 34 (New); The process according to Claim 12, wherein the transparent plastic is formed by reacting the compound of formula (III) with the compound of the formula (IV) and has a refractive index of greater than 1.61 and an Abbe number of greater than 39.

Claim 35 (New): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the solvent L is ethylacetate.

Claim 36 (New): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reacting is carried out in ethylacetate.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-36 are active in the present application. Original Claims 1-20 have been amended to correct typographical errors and for matters of form not affecting the scope of the claimed subject matter. Claims 21-36 are new claims. Support for new Claims 21-26 is found on page 16, lines 19-29. Support for new Claims 27-34 is found on page 11, line 29 through page 13, line 8. Support for new Claims 35 and 36 is found in Table 1 on page 30. No new matter is added.